

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested. Entry of the Amendment under Rule 116 is merited as it places the application in condition for allowance.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 9-16 are allowed. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3-5, 7-8, and 20-23 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, allowed claims 9-16 are pending in this application.

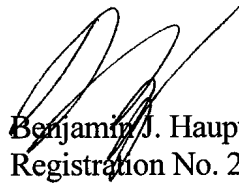
Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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